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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

(Rationalised Report according to the Notice of the President of the EPO published in the OJ11/2001)

Applicant's or agent's file reference						
200316610-1 WO	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Notification Preliminary Ex	on of Transmittal of International xamination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)			
International application No.	International filing date (day month year)		Priority date (day month year)			
PCT/EP03/50768	30/10/2003		30/10/2002			
International Patent Classification (IPC) or	national classification and IPC		,,			
H01L21/20						
Applicant						
HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY, A DELAWARE CORPORATION						
	L DEELINEE CORT OFFI					
This international preliminary exam Authority and is transmitted to the	nination report has been prepare applicant according to Article 3	d by this Interna 6.	tional Preliminary Examining			
2. This REPORT consists of a total of sheets, including this cover sheet.						
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This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority						
(see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).						
These annexes consists of a total of sheets.						
3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:						
I X Basis of the report						
· II Priority						
III X Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability						
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IV X Lack of unity of invention						
V X Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement						
VI Certain documents cited						
VII Certain defects in the international application						
VIII Certain observations on the international application						
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Date of submission of the demand	Date of	completion of the	his report			
30/04/2004		Authorized officer				
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Tel. (+47-69) 2399 2020						
orm PCT/IPEA/409 (cover sheet) P20476 (O	ctober 2002)		Office europe			

I. Basis of the report

The basis of this international preliminary examination is the application as originally filed.

III. Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability

If all the additional search fees, which the applicant has been invited to pay, have not been paid, then all the inventions or groups of inventions corresponding to the unpaid fees will not have been searched. This means that the question of whether the claimed invention appears to be novel, to involve an inventive step, or to be industrially applicable has not been the subject of the international preliminary examination in respect of the claims corresponding to these inventions or groups of inventions (Article 17(3)(a) and Rule 66.1(e) PCT; see also international search report).

IV. Lack of unity of invention

The objection as to lack of unity raised in the international search report is maintained. The reasons for the objection are the same as those indicated in the international search report.

V. Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability

To the extent that the international preliminary examination has been carried out (see item III above), the following is pointed out:

In light of the documents cited in the international search report, it is considered that the invention as defined in at least some of the claims, which have been the subject of an international search report, does not appear to meet the criteria mentioned in Article 33(1) PCT, i.e. does not appear to be novel and/or to involve an inventive step (see international search report, in particular the documents cited X and/or Y and corresponding claim references).